

## **DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY**

### ***\* Arizona Pre-Suppression Wildfire Resources Emergency \****

**WHEREAS**, the State of Arizona has experienced the driest winter in recorded history coupled with above average temperatures and the earliest recorded start to a wildfire season; and

**WHEREAS**, precipitation has been severely below normal statewide, the snow pack is 13% of normal, the watersheds are 1-21% of normal, and the greater Phoenix area has received 0% precipitation in the last 127 days with little or no precipitation forecasted in the near future; and

**WHEREAS**, the entire State of Arizona is threatened by extreme wildfire hazard due to drought-stressed desert brush and timber that are vulnerable to fire ignitions from human and natural causes; and

**WHEREAS**, the State wildfire pre-suppression resources strategy will be less prepared for the wildfire season without additional financial support from state funds to compensate for fewer federal large air tankers and to meet the demands of a fire season that is anticipated to be twice the length of a normal season; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governor is authorized to declare an emergency pursuant to A.R.S. § 26-303(D), and the Legislature has authorized the expenditure of funds in such event of an emergency pursuant to A.R.S. § 35-192;

**NOW, THEREFORE I**, Janet Napolitano, Governor of the State of Arizona, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and Laws of the State, do hereby determine that the Arizona Pre-Suppression Wildfire Resources Emergency justifies a declaration of a State of Emergency, and further:

- a. Direct the Arizona Division of Emergency Management and the Arizona State Land Department, Office of the State Forester, to work together to prepare resources for the 2006 wildfire season; and
- b. Direct that the sum of \$200,000 from the general fund be made available immediately to the Director of the Arizona Division of Emergency Management to be expended in accordance with A.R.S. § 35-192, A.A.C. R8-2-301 to 321, and Executive Order 79-4; and
- c. Direct that the State of Arizona Emergency Response and Recovery Plan be used as necessary to direct and control state and other assets, and authorize the Director of the Arizona Division of Emergency Management to coordinate state assets; and
- d. Authorize the Adjutant General to mobilize and activate all or such part of the Arizona National Guard as is determined necessary to assist in the protection of life and property throughout the State.

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**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Arizona

*J. R. Nye*  
GOVERNOR

**DONE** at the Capitol in Phoenix on this twenty-second day of February in the Year Two Thousand Six and of the Independence of the United States of America the Two Hundred and Thirtieth.

**ATTEST:**

*Janice K. Brewer*  
SECRETARY OF STATE